

To Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2744 without my signature.

The State's entire K-12 educational system: standards, textbooks, teacher training, assessments, accountability and intervention are built on the content standards as the foundation. The State Board of Education currently has the authority to review and revise the content and performance standards as the Board deems appropriate. The original standards were adopted through a public and inclusive process involving teachers, educators and content experts from around the state. Having the development under the authority of the State Board ensures that the public has access to all deliberations around the standards since the State Board is subject to the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Opening Meeting Act. Therefore, I see no compelling reason to shift the duties for standards development from the State Board of Education to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger